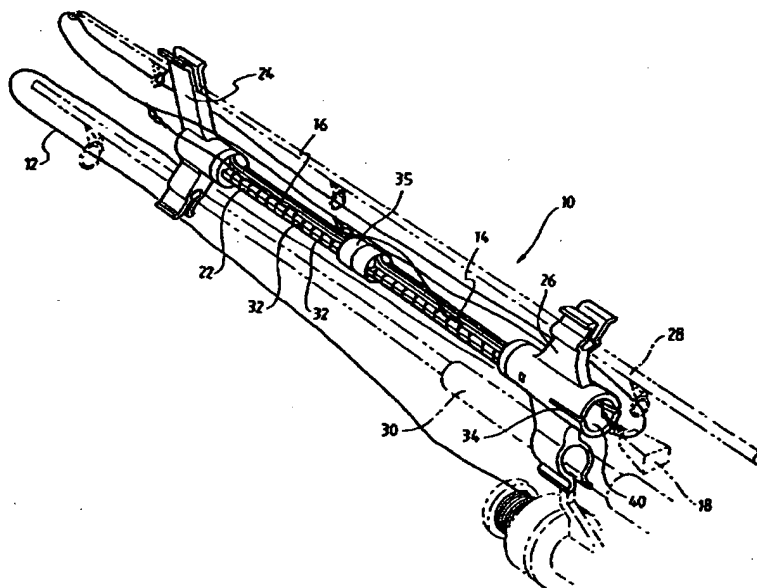




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(54) Title: ROD AND TACKLE KEEPER/STORAGE



(57) Abstract

A device (10) is disclosed to enable fishing line and accessories thereon to be secured during transport without the need for disassembly. The device (10) includes a longitudinally extending body member (20) having a side wall (22) rod mounting means (24, 26) attached to the body member (20) and a plurality of spaced openings (32) defined in said side wall (22) of said body member (20), said openings (32) serving to secure one or more hooks (14, 16) or fishing line accessories therein. Storage and securing locations are also included for large items such as lures and sinkers (18).

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ROD AND TACKLE KEEPER/STORAGE

Technical Field

The present invention relates to a rod and tackle keeper.

Background Of The Invention

5 Fishing is a very popular pastime in Australia and throughout the world with all segments of the population including both old and young people taking part in the pastime. The rigging of fishing tackle including a trace, lure floats and line on a rod can take some time and requires patience.

10 Because of their length fishing rods are frequently supplied in a number of interconnecting sections which can be assembled and disassembled for use. Thus if, for example, a fisherman wishes to move from one fishing spot to another it is usually necessary to disassemble the line and tackle and then to separate the various rod sections, the whole process of re-rigging the rod taking place at a second destination. This process requires time, which could
15 otherwise be spent fishing and, in the case of enthusiastic but inexperienced children, can be difficult to complete. An alternative is to carefully disconnect the rod sections with the rigging in place and transport the parts in the hope that the trace and hooks will not become entangled with the line, or that the hooks will not cause any accidents. This is obviously not an easy thing to
20 achieve and for reasons of safety it is preferable that such an arrangement is avoided.

Description Of Prior Art

The dangers of hooks are well known and a number of devices have been proposed to contain hooks. Cases for the safe storage of unused hooks are
25 widely available and there have also been proposed storage cases for fish hooks which are attached to lines. The device disclosed in US patent number 4,452,003 (Deutsche et al) is an example of such a device, as are the devices described in US patent number 4,203,245 (Peterson) and US patent number 4,015,361 (O'Reilly et al). In each case these devices include a container
30 which is hinged and holds a hook therein, or is at least sufficiently flexible to

5 wrap around the hook and the rod. By enclosing the hook these devices hope to prevent any damage or injury being caused by the hook. In some cases the container is adapted for use with a hook which is attached to the line and in the case of the device disclosed in US patent number 4,203,245 the flexible sheet wrapping the hook is mounted on a clip, the clip being adapted to engage and be frictionally secured on a fishing rod.

10 A further device is illustrated in US patent number 5,448,851 (Nyberg). In this case a device for securing a single hook of a fishing lure when not in use is disclosed. The device comprises an apertured, longitudinally extending tubular member with an aperture in a side wall thereof. The device is attached to the rod by means of one or two clamps arranged along the tubular member, and a locking member is threadably received through one end of the tubular member and extends therein to abut with a hook received in the aperture.

15 Whilst these devices are able to contain the hook in some way they are not entirely satisfactory. In some cases the hook containers do not take account of the hook to be retained securely with respect to the rod and therefore the cases serve no real purpose other than to isolate the hook from the environment, and in other cases, although the case is to be attached to a fishing rod there is no means for securing the position of the case on the rod, nor is account taken of the other components usually attached to a fishing line.

20 The present invention addresses these problems and is directed towards fishing rod attachment which allows a sectioned fishing rod to be disassembled for transport without the line and rigging needing to be removed.

25 Disclosure Of The Invention

Therefore, according to one aspect of the present invention, A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod, the device being characterised in that it includes:

- a longitudinally extending body member having a side wall;
- 30 - rod mounting means attached to the body member, the rod mounting means serving to mount first and second fishing rod sections on either side of the

body member,

- a plurality of spaced openings defined in said side wall of said body member, said openings serving to secure one or more hooks or fishing line accessories therein.

- 5 By including a number of hook receiving openings and also the accessory receiving opening it is possible for the device of the present invention to secure a number of hooks and also attachments to a line during periods when the rod is not in use or is in transit. Moreover, the separate sections of a fishing rod can also be secured to the device, the device thereby permitting a
10 sectioned fishing rod to be disassembled, and reassembled without the need to detach and remove the line, hooks or line accessories. In particular, the arrangement of the first and second rod mounting means being circumferentially spaced about the body permits sections of rod to be spaced either side of the body member with hooks being retained on the body
15 member.

- Preferably, the device further includes an opening, said opening being adapted to locate and house a lure, sinker or other fishing line accessory therein. Of course, weighty attachments to fishing lines are more likely in transit to swing loosely, potentially causing injury, and it is therefore desirable
20 that such attachments should be secured. Preferably, the opening additionally includes a slit opening to secure and hold a line attached to the accessory.

- Preferably, each of the first and second rod mounting means comprise a pair of clamps longitudinally spaced along the tubular body member, the clamps being resiliently openable to receive respective rod sections therein. More
25 preferably still, the first rod mounting means is adapted to attach to a fishing rod at a point diametrically opposing the point of connection of a fishing reel to the rod, at least one of the pair of resiliently openable clamps comprising the first rod mounting means being of sufficient size to receive a reel heel attached to a rod therein. By thus arranging for the body member to be
30 attached to a first section of a fishing rod at the point of connection of the reel to the rod, the body member is fixed and cannot slide around the rod. Preferably, the clamps are spaced to avoid any eyelets on the rod.

In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the accessory receiving

opening includes an open end of the body member in which a fishing line accessory, such as a float, lure or sinker can be stored, and the line anchor takes the form of a longitudinal slit formed in the open end of the body member.

- 5 Preferably, the hook receiving openings are longitudinally spaced on the tubular body member and include a central portion in which a retained hook can rest.

Brief Description Of The Drawings

- 10 The present invention will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG 1 represents in perspective view a device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod in accordance with a first aspect of the present invention;

FIG 2 represents a detailed side view of the device of FIG 1;

- 15 FIG 3 represents a top view of the device of FIG 1;

FIG 4 illustrates one end view of the device of FIG 1; and

FIG 5 illustrates a second end view of the device of FIG 1.

Description Of Preferred Embodiment

- 20 Shown in the drawings is a device 10 for retaining fishing accessories and a fishing line 12 on a rod during transport. In the example shown, the fishing accessories include hooks 14 and 16 and a sinker 18.

- 25 The device 10 includes a longitudinally extending body 20 comprising a side wall 22, first and second rod mounting means generally indicated at 24 and 26. The first and second mounting means 24 and 26 serve to attach first and second fishing rod sections 28 and 30 respectively to the device 10. As shown in Figure 1, the fishing rod sections are generally aligned with the body member 20.

As can be seen in the drawings, the rod sections 28 and 30 and the body member 20 are arranged in spaced, parallel fashion, the rod mounting means 24 and 26 acting to preserve this relationship.

5 The device 10 further includes a plurality of spaced hook receiving openings 32 defined in a side wall of said member 20 and a line anchoring slit 34 located at one end of the body member 20. The body member 20 is a strip like member having a plurality of hook receiving openings on either side thereof. A central rib 33 extending along the length of the body member 20 serves as a strengthening means for the body member.

10 The hook receiving openings 32 each take the form of a narrow slit formed in the body member 20, the slits being inclined with respect to an axial direction of the body member 20. Each opening, or slit, 32 has a slightly enlarged inner portion in which a hook is able to rest in use. Conveniently the body member 20 is able to accommodate a plurality of hooks, each hook being
15 separately attached to a respective hook receiving slit 32.

For ease of manufacturing the body member 20 in the embodiment under discussion is made in two separate parts and joined at an interconnecting centre portion 35. It must be stressed that this is not the only method of construction or shape for a body member and that a variety of shapes could
20 be used for the purpose of securing hooks and other fishing accessories.

The line anchoring slit 34 takes the form of an axial slit cut into one end of the body member 20. The body member conveniently includes a cylindrical end portion 40 which forms a hosing for any retained lure or sinker secured by the slit 34. For purposes of illustration this slit is shown of exaggerated width in
25 the drawings. The sinker 18 is thus easily and securely located in the splayed open end of the tubular body member 20 and the line secured in the line anchoring slit 34.

The first rod mounting means 26 comprise a pair of longitudinally spaced resiliently clamp members 26a and 26b adapted to be attached around the
30 fishing rod 12. As can be seen from the drawing a first clamp member 26a is of significantly larger size and is adapted to clamp around the fishing rod at the point where a reel 36 is attached to the rod section 28. The first and second rod mounting means 26 and 24 are on diametrically opposing sides of

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the body member 20. The body 20 comprises a hollow section having an open end 40 adapted to receive a line accessory, in the form of a sinker 18 therein..

5 Thus, in use, the device 10 can be snapped into position on the base of a fishing rod around the point of attachment of the reel 36, and when it is considered appropriate to disassemble the rod, a second section of the rod can be connected to the second mounting means in a similar snap in fashion and an attached line 42 is located such that a sinker or terminal line accessory is slotted into the end of the tubular member 20 with the line being retained in
10 slot 34 and any further hooks attached to the line are slotted into the hook retaining means.

Modifications and variations of the present invention such as would be apparent to a skilled addressee are deemed to within the scope of the invention.

15

CLAIMS

1. A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod, the device being characterised in that it includes:
 - a longitudinally extending body member having a side wall;
- 5 - rod mounting means attached to the body member, the rod mounting means serving to mount first and second fishing rod sections on either side of the body member,
- 10 - a plurality of spaced openings defined in said side wall of said body member, said openings serving to secure one or more hooks or fishing line accessories therein.
2. A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod according to claim 1, characterised in that the device further includes an opening, said opening being adapted to locate and house a lure, sinker or other fishing line accessory therein.
- 15 3. A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod according to claim 2, characterised in that the opening additionally includes a slit opening to secure and hold a line attached to the accessory.
- 20 4. A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod according to claim 1, characterised in that the rod mounting means is formed in two separate parts located towards opposing ends of body member.
5. A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod according to claim 1, characterised in that the rod mounting means is arranged such that rod sections are mounted on either side of the body member generally parallel thereto
- 25 6. A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod according to claim 1, characterised in that each of the first and second rod mounting means comprise a pair of clamps longitudinally spaced along the body member, the clamps being resiliently openable to receive respective rod sections therein.

7. A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod according to claim 1, characterised in that the first rod mounting means is adapted to attach to a fishing rod at a point diametrically opposing the point of connection of a fishing reel to the rod, at least one of the pair of resiliently openable
- 5 clamps comprising the first rod mounting means being of sufficient size to receive a reel heel attached to a rod therein such that the body member is maintained in a fixed position with respect to the rod.
8. A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod according to claim 7, characterised in that the clamps are spaced to avoid any
- 10 eyelets on the rod.
- 9 A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod according to claim 1, characterised in that the hook receiving openings are angled with respect to an elongate axis of the body member.
10. A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod according to claim 1, characterised in that the body member is formed of two
- 15 interconnecting parts.
11. A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod according to claim 1, characterised in that the body member includes a central strengthening rib portion
- 20 12. A device for retaining fishing accessories on a fishing rod according to claim 1, characterised in that the device is formed of material able to float on water.

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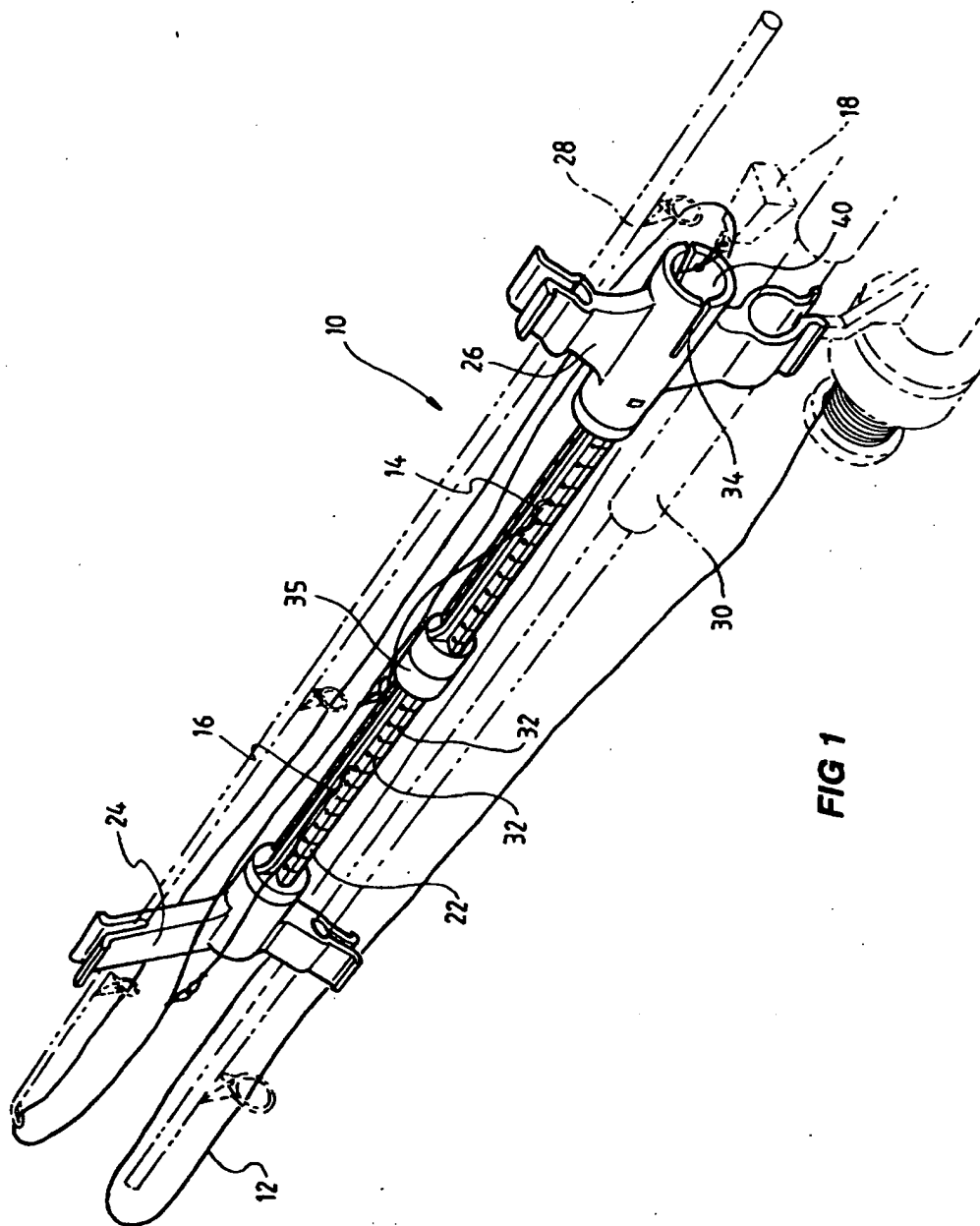
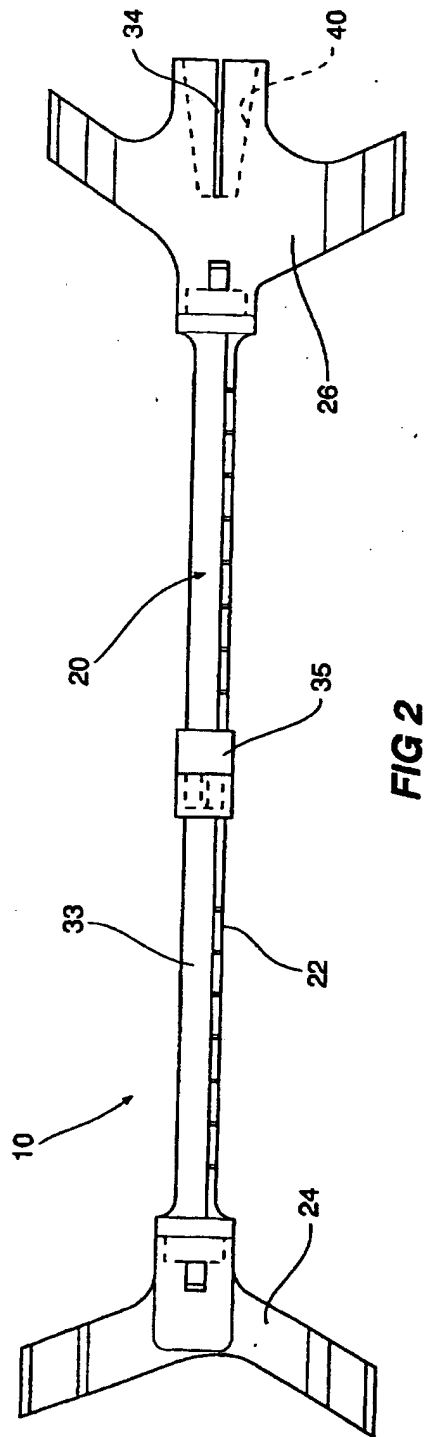
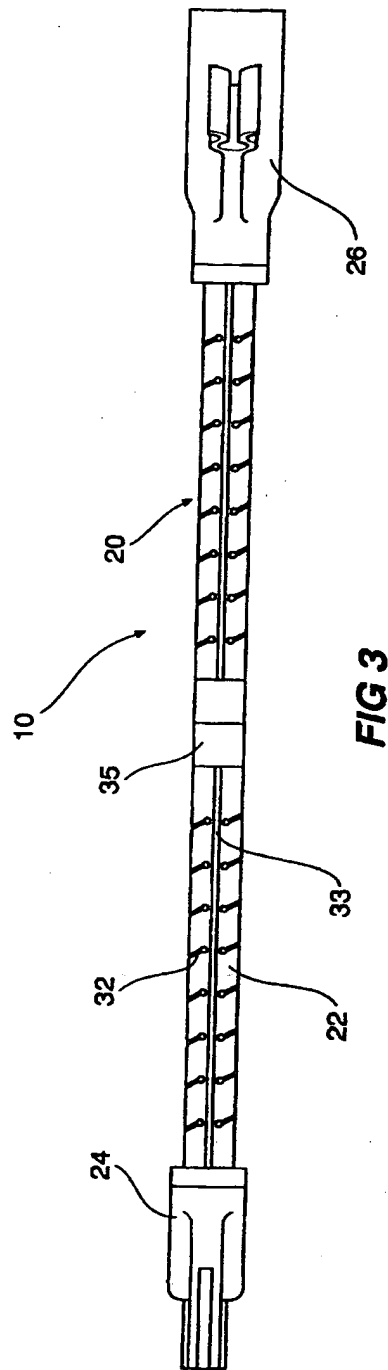


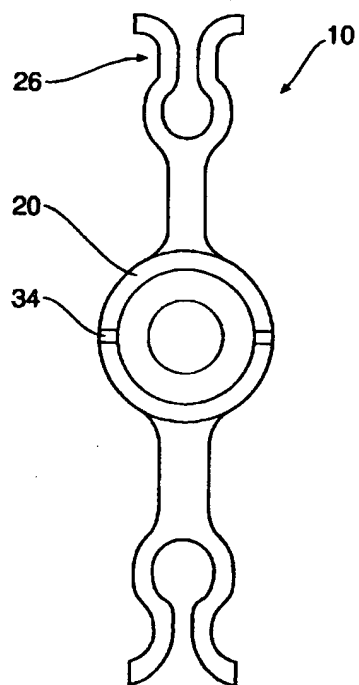
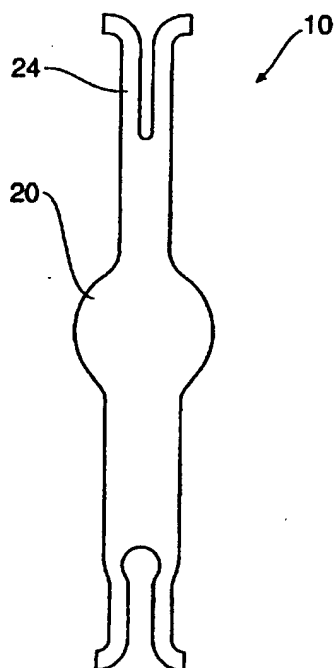
FIG 1



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**FIG 4****FIG 5**

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/AU 98/00833

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int Cl⁶: A01K 97/06, 97/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC A01K 97/06, 97/00

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
AU : IPC as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4203245 A (PETERSON) 20 May 1980	1-12
A	US 4452003 A (DEUTSCH) 5 June 1984	1-12
A	US 5448851 A (NYBERG) 12 September 1995	1-12

☒ Further documents are listed in the
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Date of the actual completion of the international search
4 November 1998

Date of mailing of the international search report

12 NOV 1998

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	AU 29823 (639881) B (HOARE) 5 August 1993 /92	1-12
A	AU 70945/74 (479069) B (YUEN) 8 January 1976	1-12
A	US 3654722 A (CAMILLERI) 11 April 1972	1-12